

for waste in these countries, and a tragic loss of opportunity to save lives. The implementation of a system that provides accountability and transparency would seem vital to continued and expanded donor support of the Global Fund in the future.

**HONORING COMMUNITY SMILES
FOR 60 YEARS OF SERVICE**

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a wonderful volunteer organization in my congressional district, Community Smiles/Dade County Dental Research Clinic. Community Smiles was established by a group of dedicated dentists in 1946 as the Dade County Dental Research Clinic. Their guiding principles are: to provide quality dental care, provide professional improvements and post-graduate education of dentists, and provide training to dental assistants for certification.

Community Smiles is a non-profit, community center that treats indigent populations in need of care. This clinic is celebrating 60 years of committed volunteer service to Miami-Dade County, during which thousands of patients have been treated pro bono. A remarkable record! The service this prestigious organization provides is invaluable to our community.

In 2006, more than 2,400 disadvantaged patients received services from 138 dentists, including major reconstructive treatment. As they begin this new year, they are ready and prepared to continue to provide an increasing number of patients with the best healthcare service possible.

I would like especially to recognize the current president, Dr. Robert Perdomo, III, for his leadership and dedication, and the immediate past two Presidents, Dr. Armando Paz & Dr. Shari Witkoff. Their unwavering pursuit of excellence has been an inspiration to the entire organization. It is their passion, talent, and service to the community of South Florida that makes our lives richer and Florida stronger.

Once again, I would like to thank Community Smiles/Dade County Dental Research Clinic for their continued commitment to the promotion of dental care. I congratulate Community Smiles on its achievement and service to the community.

**THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CSRS
RETIREMENT REPAYMENT TECHNICAL
CORRECTION ACT OF 2007**

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the CSRS Retirement Repayment Technical Correction Act of 2007. This bill would correct an unintended consequence that followed the enactment of the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-508) on November 5, 1990, and provide relief for Federal employees who were adversely affected by that enactment.

The Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1990 made retroactive changes to the rules related to separating Federal employees. While the rules were made retroactive to October 1, 1990, the implementing regulations were not promulgated until February 1991. This four month period between the enactment of the law and the promulgation of the implementing regulations has adversely affected any Federal employee who withdrew their retirement contributions during this period.

This matter was brought to my attention by Sandra Schatz Landis, my constituent who was on maternity leave from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), a former bureau of the Department of Justice at the time in question. On November 5, 1990, Ms. Landis withdrew \$24,439.00 in retirement contributions and was advised that if she later re-entered federal service, she could re-deposit the withdrawal without paying interest and not suffer any adverse consequences.

Unbeknownst to Ms. Landis and the personnel specialists at INS who were advising her, because of the enactment of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 that occurred on that very same day, November 5, 1990, employees who withdrew their retirement contributions as far back as October 1, 1990 were suddenly required to repay their withdrawn contributions with interest in order to have the prior service included in their annuity calculation. What is unfair about this is that employees had no warning that the rules under which they were making major financial decisions were changing. If Ms. Landis were to make this repayment today, she would have to refund over \$58,000 of which \$34,000 is interest. This is just one example of an unintended injustice that must be corrected.

The CSRS Retirement Repayment Technical Correction Act of 2007 will provide relief

to those who withdrew their retirement contributions between Oct 1, 1990, when the Omnibus Reconciliation Act was enacted, and February 1991, when implementing regulations were promulgated. It is fair and reasonable legislation that needs to be enacted into law.

**RECOGNITION OF THE INAUGURAL
VEGAS GRAND PRIX RACE**

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Inaugural Vegas Grand Prix Race that will take place April 6-8, 2007, in Las Vegas, and as such is scheduled to be the first of the 2007 Champ Car World Series. The inaugural Champ Car race in downtown Las Vegas marks the rebirth of world-class open-course auto racing within the city, in the great tradition of the legendary Mint 400 and the Caesars Palace Grand Prix.

The internationally televised Vegas Grand Prix will cap an action-packed, three-day festival of concerts and public events and a free street party downtown at Fremont Street. It is expected to be one of the largest events in the history of downtown Las Vegas and will be held on a 2.44-mile temporary street circuit through the heart of "Glitter Gulch" in downtown. The course includes 12 turns winding through Main Street, Carson Avenue, Casino Center Boulevard, Ogden Avenue and Grand Central Parkway.

Besides attracting racing fans and visitors from around the world to Las Vegas, the Las Vegas Grand Prix joins the distinguished list of 2007 Champ Car World Series events currently scheduled throughout North America including: Long Beach, California, Portland, Oregon, Cleveland, Ohio, San Jose, California, Denver, Colorado, Houston, Texas, Phoenix, Arizona, Mexico City, Mexico, and the Canadian cities of Edmonton, Toronto and Montreal. A race will even take place on the Gold Coast of Australia.

Madam Speaker, may my colleagues join me in recognizing this momentous occasion for Las Vegas, my constituents and race fans around the world.